

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking and honoring duWayne Amen and in wishing him well as he embarks on the next season of life.

HONORING JENNIFER CAR-
RUTHERS AS IOWAN OF THE
WEEK

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennifer Carruthers as Iowan of the Week. Jen is a female LGBTQ entrepreneur, strong advocate, dedicated mentor and passionate community leader for Iowa.

Born and raised in Rock Island, IL, Jen studied at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, IA receiving a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management with a focus on Urban Economic Development. She then went on to make her home in Des Moines, spending the last decade advocating for marginalized communities. Through her business 11 Eleven Productions, she was pivotal in launching and developing the female-led barber shop, Dapper DSM. Jen also founded Drag King DSM, which draws top performers and sell-out crowds in a marginalized art form. Over the last 10 years at Girls Rock! Des Moines, she has developed programming which now offers two summer camps and year-round services including the second all-female-led recording studio in the country. Her outstanding leadership in Iowa has been deservedly recognized by multiple community organizations.

Jen has been instrumental organizing and leading Capital City Pride (CCP), which has become the largest LGBTQ+ gathering in Iowa and one of the fastest growing Pride's in the country.

During her time leading Capital City Pride, the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way communities celebrate, but Jen knew the importance of celebrating Pride together. In 2020, she led the board in putting together some of their most beloved Pride Fest events virtually to ensure LGBTQ+ community-building continued. This programming engaged just shy of 30,000 people, providing critical connectivity during the height of the pandemic.

This June, Jen led the Capital City Pride board through 30 Days of Pride remaining cognizant of COVID-19. Events held across Des Moines included a mix of online and in person events allowing people to participate to their comfort level. Some popular additions this year included a Downtown Scavenger Hunt, the Rainbow Safari at Blank Park Zoo, Ride in Movie night at the Science Center and a Drive Thru Parade with Outdoor Concert at Waterworks Park. Favorites from year's past like the Silent Disco, Pet Parade and Pride Night with the I-Cubs brought people together in familiar ways.

As June and 30 Days of Pride ended this year, it culminated with another Drag King DSM production. But Jen is just getting started; started in another year of advocating, of educating, of learning, of uplifting others, and most of all, another year of celebrating Pride.

I look forward to 2022 and beyond to see what Jen will accomplish for the Iowa community, and it is my honor to name Jennifer Carruthers our Iowan of the Week.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL ADKERSON

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who exemplified the hard-working, blue collar life that is the backbone of our Nation. On February 23, of this year, the Lord called Neil Adkerson to his heavenly home at the young age of forty-six; but, in those forty-six years, Neil achieved the most important aspects of the American dream.

Coming from a childhood where love was plentiful, but means were scarce, Neil understood early the values of family bonds, of a strong work ethic, and of self-reliance. He never sought fame, and always shied away from recognition. Anytime he helped a friend or neighbor, which was often, he always did it with a smile. Neil worked long hours to make a modest living, and never complained about his life. He lived within his means, so he could provide for his family. His focus was on providing a happy, loving upbringing for his three stepsons, to which he only ever referred to as his sons. They are, in his words, his greatest contribution to this world.

Even in hard times, Neil always greeted people with a humble smile and a kind word. The one thing that that could raise his ire was someone disparaging the country that he loved dearly; and, even then, he would simply tell them why he believed America is the greatest country on earth, because it had given a poor boy from North Georgia so much freedom and opportunity.

In short, Neil Adkerson was a good man who loved God, loved his family, and loved his country. That, Madam Speaker, is the very essence of what it means to be an American.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT
"BOB" MOSES

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Robert Parris Moses.

Robert "Bob" Parris Moses was a civil rights leader, educational advocate, and pioneer in grassroots community organizing whose efforts played a key role in helping Mississippians gain basic rights.

Moses, a New York native, was a field secretary for SNCC in Mississippi during the 1960s. He also served as co-director of the Council of Federated Organizations, which used community organizing as a tool to launch voter registration projects across the state. COFO served as an umbrella for an alliance between the SNC, the Congress of Racial Equality and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and helped focus civil rights efforts in the state. COFO was known for its young organizers' door-to-door canvassing, voter registration preparation and workshops, and actual registration attempts in Mississippi.

In response to the state Democratic Party denying access to Black Mississippians,

Moses, along with Fannie Lou Hamer, Ella Baker and others created the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. The effort created national attention at the 1964 National Democratic Convention as conflict developed over whether to recognize the integrated party or the traditional party. New party members ultimately failed at being seated as voting members of the 1964 convention, but their efforts brought new attention to the plight of African Americans in Mississippi and other Southern states and ultimately led to a revolution in the national Democratic Party on racial issues.

In 2000, Moses was honored by both the Mississippi House and Senate, whose members in past years had passed laws that he fought to overturn denying voting rights and other basic rights to African Americans. On July 25, 2021, Moses died at the tender age of 86. Bob Moses was quiet, meticulous, effective visionary, and leader. His contributions to the State of Mississippi should not be forgotten.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Robert Moses for his dedication to serving his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAUL
LUPINSKI ON HIS INDUCTION
INTO THE LUZERNE COUNTY
SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former athlete, coach, and Northeastern Pennsylvania native Paul Lupinski. Paul will be inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame in 2021 for his distinct athletic and coaching achievements in the sports of soccer, basketball, golf, swimming, baseball, and football. He and his fellow inductees will be honored at a reception on August 8, 2021.

Each year, the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame honors those who have brought fame and recognition to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through their outstanding achievements and contributions in athletic endeavors.

At Tunkhannock Area High School, Paul was a standout multi-sport athlete, earning letters in soccer, golf, basketball, swimming, and baseball. He was named All-Conference in soccer, swimming, and baseball, and his senior year, he received All-State Honors in swimming. In the pool, he set school records in the 50 freestyle, 100 freestyle, and 200 freestyle relay, and he won three district gold medals, one in the 50 freestyle and two in the 100 freestyle. In 1995, he went on to swim at the state championships, placing third in the 100 free and fourth in the 50 free. That year he was named to the High School Academic All-American Team. He was named to the 1994 and 1995 Times Leader Wyoming Valley Conference Swimming All-Star Team, as well as the 1995 Wyoming Valley Conference Baseball All-Star Team. He was also a Dutch Keller and Procter and Gamble Scholarship recipient.

At the end of Paul's senior year in baseball, he suffered a stroke caused by endocarditis due to a defective aortic valve. However, he was determined to honor his commitment to